

**Lancaster County Firefighters Associations Preamble
Constitution and By-Laws
(Adopted March 2000)**

Objective

To better protect urban and rural communities in Lancaster County from fire or other disaster by having a working knowledge of each other's equipment and the examination on inquiry concerning the merit of the different kinds of equipment in use and the cultivation of fraternal fellowship between the departments of the county.

Article I Name

Section 1. The name of this association shall be known as "The Lancaster County Firefighter's Association" also known as Lancaster County Mutual Aid.

Article II Membership, Associate Membership, Dues

Section 1. Fire and rescue departments, that are operating within Lancaster County and its surrounding borders, that are duly organized and supported in accordance with the statutes of the State of Nebraska may apply for membership in the Association. A positive majority vote of the Association members shall be required for acceptance as a voting member.

Section 2. Other agencies or organizations that have a sincere interests in supporting the fire and rescue services that operate in Lancaster County and the surrounding area are eligible for Associate membership. Associate members will not have voting privileges in Association business.

Section 3. A. Active membership dues will be assessed at the beginning of the calendar year. To remain in good standing, dues must be paid in full by April 1, each year.

B. The annual dues rate and communication users fee shall be reviewed and revised as necessary each year at the November meeting.

C. Associate members shall be assessed an amount equal to 50% of the active membership dues.

D. Members using the Communications system shall be assessed the current annual users fee which is payable with the annual dues.

Article III Officers

Section 1. The officers of this association shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer and an Executive Committee consisting of one (1) member from each member department. All officers and Executive Committee members must be active firefighters/EMS providers.

Section 2. The officers shall be elected from members of the executive committee at the annual meeting and shall serve a one (1) year term.

Section 3. The Executive committee shall consist of 1 (one) selected representative from each Department within the association.

Each department of the Association is entitled to one vote on matters concerning the Association, that vote to be cast by their Executive committee representative. Each member department shall select their own representative to the Executive committee. This individual may delegate his/her voting authority to another member of their department, at their discretion or as necessary.

Article IV Officer Duties

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and shall perform the duties usually belonging to such office.

Section 2. The President shall appoint committees as considered advisable or necessary.

Section 3. The Vice President shall preside at the meeting of the Association in the absence of the President.

Section 4. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be custodian of the records of the Association and shall receive all money belonging to the "Lancaster County Firefighter's Association" in a depository in Lancaster County. He/she shall make a complete detailed financial statement of all receipts and disbursements of the Association at each annual meeting.

Article V Meetings, Quorum, Elections, and Voting

Section 1. The monthly meeting of the Association shall be held at 8:00 p.m., on the third Monday of each month, except that there will be no December meeting. The meetings held in the odd numbered months will be located in the Lincoln vicinity. The meeting held in the even numbered months shall be selected alphabetically. All meeting must be announced at least two (2) months in advance, unless other circumstances prevail. Seven members shall constitute a quorum. All voting of the association shall be a roll call vote for any business conducted by the association. An exception to the roll call vote may be made when voting on leadership positions within the association. The vote to elect leadership within the association may be taken by secret ballot, but the total number of votes for each candidate shall be recorded in the minutes. The business of the Association shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order and any such State of Nebraska Statutes that may be appropriate. (ie., Article 14 Public Meetings sections 84-1408 to 84-1414).

Section 2. The executive committee must provide 30 days notice to the members of the association on proposed expenditures over \$300.00. An exception to the 30 day notification may be allowed for critical equipment ie., communications equipment .

Section 3. The Annual Meeting shall be held at 8:00 p.m. at the last meeting of the calendar year, at which time the election of officers for the ensuing year shall be conducted. When electing officers, each member department shall have one vote. Officers take office in January of the following year.

Section 4. The Executive Committee shall pass on matters of policy, constitution and by-laws and general welfare of the Association.

Article VI Process for Bylaw Change

Section 1. A. Any proposed changes shall be submitted in writing prior to being read at 2 meetings (preferably consecutive) of the Association.

B. Changes shall be voted on at the meeting following the second reading.

C. A 2/3 majority vote of the active membership present shall be required for passage.

Order of Business

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
3. Reading of the minutes of the last meeting
4. Treasurer's report
5. Committee reports
6. Unfinished business
7. New business
Officer Elections (Annual Meeting)
Dues Review/Revision (Annual Meeting)
8. Fire reports
9. Good of the Association
10. Adjournment